Stronger together

- a joint development project between Swedish Library Association and Kenya Library Association
2013 - 2017

Final report 2017
Stronger together

- a joint development project between
Swedish Library Association and Kenya Library Association
2013 - 2017

Final report 2017
# Contents

Development of libraries in Kenya and of the Kenya Library Association ................................................................. 5

Background of the project .................................................................................................................................................. 7

Strengthening the role and development of the Library Association ........................................................................... 9

Pilot study, first visit and signing the agreement ........................................................................................................ 10

Development of project activities and further exchanges ............................................................................................ 13

Achievements during the project period ....................................................................................................................... 17

The evaluation process ...................................................................................................................................................... 23

Outline for future development of Kenya Library Association in Kenya and the regional aspect ............................... 27
A historical background

KLA was established in November 1974 after the dissolution of its predecessor, the East African Library Association (EALA), which was founded in 1956 comprising Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika (now Tanzania) as members. In 1964, for purposes of increasing membership, it was decided that each country should form a national association but become a member of EALA, which was finally dissolved in 1972 because of the lack of initiatives, commitment and dedication.

The famous Hockey Report, produced by S.W. Hockey, made important recommendations, notably for the establishment of the East Africa School of Librarianship in Makerere, Uganda, and in highlighting the importance of university-educated librarians and the feasibility of developing librarianship as an academic discipline. Support was provided by the Rockefeller Foundation and UNESCO. After 1972 KLA grew as a national library association and inaugurated Maktaba, (which still exists today) as its official journal. The Tanzania Library Association hosted the first Standing Conference of East Africa Librarians, which later grew to draw membership from Central and Southern Africa, to create the present day Standing Conference for Librarians and Information Services in East, Central and Sothern Africa (SCECSAL).

KLA has since its inception in 1974 grown in strength in membership recruitment and in training librarians in all sectors, mostly in public, academic, special and school categories and in 1984 it became capable of hosting the 50th IFLA, the first to be held in Africa. However, KLA like any other library association in Africa, continued to face the enigmatic challenges of low membership recruitment and the status of librarians. Owing to this KLA fell into the doldrums for almost two decades from 1980-2000. Ironically this was also a period of concentration in developing library services in the country. Thereafter there were initiatives and efforts made to strengthen KLA through international efforts which eventually culminated in collaboration and partnership projects such as the Building Strong Library Association (BSLA).
Kenya Library Association

VISION
Kenya Library Association strives to become a leading professional body for librarians, information specialists, and knowledge managers in Eastern Africa.

OUR MISSION IS:
To organize, unite and represent professionals concerned with information work in Kenya in accordance with international professional standards.
To promote growth, development and professional integrity of its members.
Set, maintain, monitor and promote standards of excellence in the creation, management and exploitation of information and knowledge resources.
To promote creation of knowledge and information societies through advocacy.

SERVICES
The services offered include:
1. Professional Membership
   Trainings
Background of the project Stronger Together

Library associations all over the world play a crucial role in the development of a reading culture and the information society. This particular bilateral partnership involved the exchange of experience between the Swedish Library Association (SLA) and KLA, the most important objective being to strengthen the KLA for the benefit of library development in the country.

SLA has always maintained a strong international commitment. The choice of supporting a developing country, and especially Kenya, came after a discussion in what was then SLA’s International Council and was made on the grounds that it was a focus country for both the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), at the time.

The cooperation between the two associations has taken place with close links to IFLA, the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users, in general and with their BSLA programme in particular.
Strengthening the role and development of the Library Association

According to its own description BSLA is a comprehensive IFLA programme offering a strategic and coordinated approach to capacity building and augmenting the sustainability of library associations. Strong library associations support and enrich society and the library and information profession. They unite a country’s library community around a common platform for advocacy and development of the profession. BSLA helps library associations to improve services for library users, to provide equitable access to information and advance the library and information profession.

Programme activities include training and mentoring, which helps associations to form partnerships, strengthen governance and member services and become better advocates for their library community. Training and activities are tailored to the objectives of local library associations and for different cultural, political, technological and social conditions.

The Stronger Together project has, however, not made use of the entire BSLA programme, but has, from the beginning, focused on the following three main areas – Libraries on the Agenda, Library Associations in Society and Sustaining Your Library Association. The programme’s detailed and applicable evaluation process has also been used at regular intervals during the lifespan of the whole project. IFLA has drawn attention to this particular use of the BSLA programme as a role model for other countries that prefer their own project design.
Pilot study, first visits and signing agreements

The first plans for the joint project were already being made at the IFLA conference in Gothenburg in 2010 with discussions between the chair of KLA and the then International Council Group of SLA.

In May and June 2011, two representatives from Sweden in their turn visited Kenya. During their stay they had the chance of visiting libraries in Nairobi and Mombasa, meeting with the Kenya National Library Service (KNLS), authorities like the Swedish Embassy, the Swedish Chamber of Commerce, the NGO Forum Syd and other organizations. The purpose was to learn as much as possible about the country before starting the project. In addition they took part in KLA’s annual conference in Mombasa and met the whole KLA Board for the first time.

In the course of this stay they also had the opportunity to observe and thoroughly discuss library matters in Kenya concerning all kinds of libraries like university, public, school, community and corporate ones. Study visits were made to a series of school libraries of very uneven standards in the countryside, as well as to excellently managed public, museum and university libraries in Nairobi, Mombasa and Malindi.

This first visit to Kenya gave a wide perspective on significant issues for the shared future focus. At KLA’s annual conference, its AGM (annual general meeting) the Swedish representatives were invited to give a presentation of SLA, which also covered the Swedish library system in general. It was the first contribution to a professional conference followed by a great number of the same kind of events in the years to come.

In the following year, in March 2012, SLA arranged an initial workshop in Stockholm, Sweden, intended for eight representatives and colleagues from Kenya. The main task of the workshop was to introduce the BSLA programme and to discuss future mutual operations. In the course of their stay in Stockholm the Kenyan colleagues also had the
opportunity to see local libraries, meet fellow librarians and visit the
Embassy of Kenya. Afterwards KLA established a strategic plan and a
budget for its future work, one of the main goals for the project.

In November of the same year, representatives from Sweden attended
KLA’s annual conference in Kisumu. During this visit, they were informed
about and took part in KLA’s ongoing recruitment process of an Execu-
tive Officer for the new office in Nairobi. They were also invited to a
stakeholders’ forum arranged by KNLS to discuss the development
of the library system in Kenya.

While taking part in meetings with the Kenyan Ministry of State for
National Heritage & Culture, the Swedish delegation became con-
vinced that the cooperation between the two countries was highly
appreciated.

At the same annual conference in Kisumu, a workshop based on the
BSLA programme was offered for the delegates as well as a presentation
of the Swedish marketing campaign “Library Lovers”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.

Finally in August 2012, at the IFLA conference in Helsinki, SLA and KLA
signed the five-year cooperation agreement starting the project named
“Stronger Together”.
Development of project activities and further exchanges

Annual meetings and presentations

Ever since the beginning of the project, delegates from the two associations have visited each other’s annual meetings. In Sweden these are known as the Library Days and were held in Örebro in 2013, Umeå in 2014, Lund in 2015, Västerås in 2016 and Växjö in 2017. In Kenya KLA’s AGM took place in Mombasa in 2011, Kisumu in 2012, Kakamega in 2013, Eldoret in 2014, Meru in 2015, Thika in 2016 and once again Mombasa in 2017. At these conferences there have been seminars in which the representatives have given presentations of the current situation regarding libraries in their respective countries as well as of the progress of the project work itself.

At the Library Days in Lund in 2015, on the other hand, the course of action was changed and a different kind of seminar was arranged in which all the chairs of the Nordic national associations described the different methods for their international commitments and what form they took. Afterwards the KLA chair gave a speech at the satellite meeting for the IFLA network of SLA at Lund University.

In May 2017 a delegation from Kenya will once again visit the Library Days, taking place in Växjö, where the final report will also be presented and distributed.

The final project journey to Kenya within the Stronger Together project will go to KLA’s AGM in Mombasa in November 2017 where after the final report work will commence on a new joint project, The Next Step.
Scholarships
One of the starting ideas was to keep the project working group small in order to call in other people and enable, for instance, young colleagues to participate in the travelling, make contributions to the conferences, become involved and spread information back home. In reality only three persons constituted the steering group: two project managers and one representative from the SLA office. A special scholarship was established, intended specifically for young Swedish librarians. Young KLA members have often expressed a desire for the same possibility in the future.

Final workshop
During one week in May 2016 eight members of the KLA Board attended a new and concluding workshop in Stockholm, devoted mainly to the evaluation of Stronger Together and future prospects after the project involving further cooperation and a possible new project. The participants visited the Swedish National Library, a couple of suburban libraries and spent time together with colleagues in the SLA Board and office.

New contacts for future cooperation
In connection with the Thika AGM in November 2016 the Swedish representatives made a special journey to Kaijado County south of Nairobi, where they were received by the Governor Dr David Nkedianye with a group of the officials and inspected the progress of the new county library building. In Nairobi they visited the Ministry of Sports, Culture and the Arts and were welcomed by the Director of Administration, Wenslas S.A. Ong’ayo, to a fruitful meeting that addressed the progress of the Library Act and possible future cooperation.

IFLA attendance
Every year a delegate from KLA has been assigned financial support from the project funds to attend the IFLA WLIC, World Library and Information Conference, where colleagues from both countries have had an opportunity to continue their discussions and circulate information.
Meetings after Helsinki in 2012 were held in Singapore in 2013, in Lyon 2014, in Cape Town 2015 and in Columbus 2016. In Lyon, the project was jointly presented at a BSLA satellite meeting on marketing entitled “How strong is your association?“.
Learn new skills. Together. In the library. For free.

Buruburu Library is hosting study groups for learners who want to complete online courses together, in-person at the libraries. These are free, peer-supported courses designed to be taken by anybody.

**Intro to HTML/CSS**
Monday afternoons
October 17 - November 21
2:30 - 4 PM

**Storytelling for Change**
Tuesday afternoons
October 18 - November 22
Achievements during the project period from two viewpoints

The Swedish Library Association
The commitment of many different stakeholders is important for a successful project. Consequently, members from SLA and KLA have, together, several times met representatives from national and regional Government offices, KNLS and other important decision makers. The purpose has been to secure extensive and broad-based commitment to the project.

Strategic plans
Two important project goals have been attained. One was to establish a strategic plan showing how KLA will build a stronger library association. The strategic plan states in what way KLA intends to work with dissemination, advocacy, marketing, development, long-term financing, stakeholders, working groups, different libraries, as well as KLA’s endeavours to gain approval for its work in society from library members and others. Two strategic plans have been in operation during the project period, one 2012 – 2015 and the other pointing at the future 2016 – 2020.

A staffed office
The other major goal was to establish a staffed office in Nairobi in order to have the means to develop the organization, work with marketing, advocacy and dissemination of information to stakeholders, members of the association and citizens throughout the country. The office and its manager have been in place since January 2013, located in the KNLS building in Nairobi. In the future it will be moved to the new National Library building under construction.

Explicit international interest
A growing interest from IFLA has been noticeable in this particular form of joint project. The Secretary General of IFLA mentioned
the cooperation between Sweden and Kenya and their tailored use of the BSLA programme as a role model from which other countries could learn and find inspiration in her annual report in Singapore 2013.

Attention has also been drawn to Stronger Together by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in its engagement in Global Libraries and networking in different parts of the world within the International Network of Emerging Library Innovators (INELI).

Representatives from other countries in Eastern Africa have taken part in the KLA’s AGMs during the project period, among them Uganda, Rwanda and South Sudan. Some of them have approached the project managers and expressed their interest in creating their own similarly successful library associations. Accordingly, after the end of the project KLA will have the strength to function as a hub for library development in the region.

**Increased number of activities**

The current half-yearly reports from KLA indicate that its Executive Committee has conducted several meetings and conferences during the years, which have enabled the association to be promoted locally and internationally. These activities were facilitated through funding from SLA and internal income.

**Regional development**

From SLA’s point of view, one of the most important and appreciated achievements concerning libraries in Kenya during the project time appears to be the development of regional branches around the whole country. It was possible to organize through the KLA office meetings for librarian, workshops and training sessions within these branches to enable training, networking and enhancing the association. The number of librarians and information professionals attending regional workshops has more than doubled.
Higher level of services, training the trainers

The reports have also shown that more people are registering as members of the association. The level of service delivery in libraries has risen and branch members are calling for more activities within the branches. The branches where workshops and training sessions were conducted included the Mount Kenya branch, Nyanza branch, Western branch, Rift Valley branch, the Coast branch and the Eastern branch, while Nairobi’s branch workshop was called off because of logistical challenges. The launch of the new North-Eastern branch was planned for November 2014 but had to be postponed for security reasons.

Kenya Library Association

Achievements during the project period are enumerated here under a) internal administrative achievements and b) external national and international achievements. These achievements are mainly in terms of social, economic and professional impact, and most of them were initially identified as project deliverables while others are new outcomes of project activities during the period.

Internal Administrative Achievements

During the project period key administrative provisions were achieved including the recruitment and sustainment of an Executive Officer post, setting, equipping and furnishing the KLA office located at KNLS Buruburu Branch. This has enabled attainment of effective communication like the ability to write funding proposals to support international conferences and Maktaba Awards. With the available administrative support, KLA’s Executive Committee was able to meet regularly to conduct business including hosting annual general meetings to present reports and conduct elections for the sustainability of the KLA leadership. Important documents such as the constitution and strategic plan 2016-2020 and writing internal policies were either revised or drafted anew. The KLA website has been maintained and is up and running.
External National and International Achievements

The national achievements and impact include the *branding and sustainability of the annual (since 2010) Maktaba Awards*, the national competition for libraries and information services where winners are awarded attractive prizes. The cost of managing the event and awards is equivalent to USD 40,000. Two annual international conferences (July and November) have been held and proceedings published and distributed during the conference. KLA branches organized and hosted workshops for their members, some branches were even given a chance to co-organize the international conference and AGM with the KLA national office.

Other national achievements included hosting *meetings and discussions with existing professional chapters and networks*, such as National Information Professionals of Kenya, the Public Libraries Association, the Association of Government Librarians, and the Western Kenya Information Professional Association, each comprising memberships of more than 300. Prior to 2012, the beginning of the Stronger Together project, these groups were unaware of the role of KLA or simply ignored it and wanted to have parallel associations for their members. Since the meetings and discussions were held with these chapters, they are now willing to join and work closely with KLA in the future.

KLA's leadership realized during the period under review that a lot would be achieved with the enactment of an *Act of Parliament*, hence the commencement of drafting a bill to be presented to parliament. The process is now continuing with the assistance of the Ministry of Sports, Culture and the Arts. However, in 2015 KLA managed to provide comments for improvement of the document on its role in the draft *County Library Services Bill* currently in the Senate for review. The bill when enacted will guide the establishment and management of libraries under the County government system. KLA is already working with Kajiado County on constructing, staffing, stocking and equipping their almost complete new library.
International achievements include existing *effective collaboration and partnership* with SLA and the successful management of the Stronger Together Project under the IFLA BSLA programme. During the IFLA/WLIC meeting in Columbus, Ohio, USA, KLA nominated and presented Jacinta Were, Deputy Director, Technical Services, University of Nairobi, for the IFLA Scroll Medal award. KLA has also established a steering committee in Kenya that will work on the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. KLA with achievements from activities supported by the project has managed to sustain an annual membership subscription and active participation in IFLA/WLIC, SECSAL and AfLIA (African Library & Information Association) and their conferences.
The evaluation process

Impact evaluation has been an important requirement during the whole project and its results will be useful for the two national library associations as well as IFLA in the long run. Three questionnaires with recurrent questions to explore expected developments have been distributed and analyzed. In addition several interviews have been conducted, some planned, some carried out more occasionally inside and outside KLA. Seven structured in-depth interviews with key persons were held in 2015 in Meru and Nairobi.

In Kakamega in 2013, the first questionnaire “How do we proceed?” about the impact of the project was introduced as part of the ongoing evaluation process referred to. It was distributed to the AGM participants and sent out afterwards to all members of KLA and the results were analyzed and discussed together in a project seminar at the annual meeting in Umeå in 2014. The responses of KLA’s members expressed satisfaction with the development of the project and revealed their great expectations for the future of the recreated association.

The second questionnaire “Do we still proceed?” was distributed at the 2014 AGM in Eldoret. The percentage of answers to both these questionnaires was around 20% which means only one-quarter of the participants of the AGMs together with the late answers via emails. Nevertheless these answers to the same questions within a one-year interval helped us draw conclusions about developments, successes and challenges during the project period and were formative in that they enabled necessary changes.

The third and final questionnaire “Did we succeed?” on the other hand was answered by 71% of the participants at the 2016 AGM in Thika. It was also presented to those attending as extremely important, as it was the last one and concerned the impact of the entire project as well as the possibility of future cooperation.
After the two first questionnaires and the year before the final one, the same kind of evaluation tool was replaced by in-depth interviews in Meru and Nairobi in 2015. The BSLA programme suggests this method with key stakeholders, such as representatives of the association, the Government and other major relevant institutions. In Meru the group of informants comprised two members of the board, one individual working locally for the county tourism and one representing the county schools. In Nairobi the group included one person representing the university field, one from a big association, the Goethe Institut and an administrator at the Department of Culture, Sports and the Art. These interviews provided detailed and exhaustive information about the development in Kenya since the beginning of the project. The most positive testimony came from the university library representative, whereas the urgent demand for the endorsement of a Parliamentary Act was emphasized by the department library.

Quotations from informants

Tarsilla Thuranira, Head Teacher, CCM (Catholic Church Mission) Township Primary School: Slum children, illiterate parents and libraries as resource centres. We can be able to embrace many changes, we can walk together, we can learn from each other like we are learning now.

Doreen Khatambi, Meru Tourist Office, “Miss Tourism”, Meru County: The boy child needs. We need to instil a learning culture in children when they are very young so when they are much much older going to the library will not be a problem but more like a way of life.

Daniel Gatua, Editor, KLA Eastern Branch: The most vibrant chapter. There has been a tremendous change! During that time, we have seen a lot of change. We have involved more schools, more universities, more special schools, more individuals.

Paul Gichohi, Senior Librarian, Kenya Methodist University, Meru, Vice-Chairman, Eastern Branch, KLA: Change in the approach to
professional development. You realize that the national body, the KLA is very critical in providing control and guiding in the way the library as a profession is handled.

Catherine Mukoma, Campus Head Librarian, Moi University Library, Nairobi: An integral part in the growth of the society and the nation. Today librarians are actually in each and every meeting or committee because they have all realized that it is really important.

Stephen Mau, Acting Director, Library Services, Ministry of Sports, Culture and the Art: The importance of a policy. Even if there is a lot to be done in the KLA, we have seen the past three or four years is completely different from what used to be there earlier on.

Eliphas Nyamogo, Head of Information and Library Department, Goethe Institut Kenya: The hunger for knowledge and the importance of a professional body. I think the development will come because it’s in the constitution and the constitution is the supreme law of the country.
No book ever ends when it's full of your friends...
Outline for future development of the Kenya Library Association in Kenya and the regional aspect

The current KLA scenario has positive indicators of its transformation into a vibrant and growing organization compared to five years ago before the launch of the ‘Stronger Together’ project. KLA has great potential to develop largely in three key sectors: internal empowerment through legislation and leadership; harmonized and coordinated professional large membership potential; and national and regional impact.

KLA’s future development is largely dependent on the attainment of a legislative Act through a bill that is currently being pursued through the Ministry of Sports, Culture and the Arts. The attainment of the Act will present the ‘panacea’ for solving the perennial problems, including low membership recruitment, poor professional image and low revenue generation. KLA will have a legal obligation to streamline the profession and play an active national role in matters of information policy management. The KLA constitution and by-laws are not adequate legal instrument for ensuring leadership capacity building and sustainability. KLA, therefore, plans to entrench transformational leadership in the organization through an established and sustainable culture that ensures smooth ‘hand-over – take-over’ for future growth and development of the association. In this regard, KLA will continue to organize training, workshops and conferences for its members, where they will share research knowledge and benchmarks.

KLA has so far managed in 2015 and 2016 to contact and several professional chapters and networks, such as National Information Professionals of Kenya, Public Libraries Association, Association of Government Librarians, and Western Kenya Information Professional Association, each comprising memberships of more than 300 and formulate strategies for future cooperation. KLA intends to have
forward-looking, structured strategies for close working relationships and membership registration with these chapters to build a stronger national library association.

The continued active membership and participation of KLA in SCEC-SAL is still important for KLA because this is the way that mentorship and support for Rwanda and South Sudan national library associations is feasible. KLA is very willing to assist but the challenge has been to obtain contact with the right persons in these countries. However, KLA intends to work with the Rwanda professional fraternity to develop a BSLA proposal for submission to IFLA in 2017. KLA plans to work closely with IFLA and AfLIA on issues related to implementation of UN Vision 2030. KLA is leading a team comprising members from KNLS and the Ministry of Planning and Devolution on implementation of UN sustainable development goals in the information sector in Kenya.

**Finishing remarks**

The project Stronger Together is a unique exchange of experiences between two countries with different conditions but with the same task: to strengthen the freedom of expression and broaden the access of information and knowledge through stronger library organizations. All international library cooperation shares the vision of this freedom as a cornerstone for democracy. The issues are often the same globally but the challenges differ and the answers vary. Swedish Library Association and Kenya Library Association have cooperated in this project with the UN global goals in view. The differences have merely sharpened the issues and widened the perspectives. And made us stronger together.
List of Annexes, published on SLA’s website www.biblioteksforeningen.se

Letter of Intent
KLA Constitution
Strategic Plan
Questionnaire
First questionnaire analysis
Final questionnaire analysis
Interview questions
Draft Bill for Parliament Act
Quotations

For further information, please contact Bjorn Orring at SLA, bo@biblioteksforeningen.org
Stronger together

– a joint development project between Swedish Library Association and Kenya Library Association

2013 – 2017

Final report 2017

SWEDISH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
KENYA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION